

History for Myron and JoAnn Nims post smart meter install

Late August 2013, a DTE employee came to our home at 9493 Pontiac Trail. Said employee inquired of Myron if any resident had a pacemaker. Myron replied "no, but my wife has a stent since her heart attack in 2011." Nothing more was said, and DTE had not previously contacted or warned that the installation of a device that could potentially cause physical harm was going to take place on that day.

Mid-September 2013, JoAnn started having flu-like symptoms including dizziness, nausea, buzzing in the ears, and a foggy feeling in the head. Soon to follow was insomnia and heart palpitations. No connection had yet been made that the meter may be causing any of these problems. These symptoms continued throughout the fall. Myron was out a lot and did not seem to be effected. Also, he had had hernia surgery in September and was feeling the side effects of that after the surgery occurred.

In October, JoAnn noticed changes in her thyroid function.

January 2014, received a copy of the Courant newspaper. An article titled "Smart Meters – Do You Want One?" caught our attention. Upon reading the article, the light went off in our heads. JoAnn's exact symptoms were described in the article. Also, it was noted that the location of the DTE meters is on the bedroom wall where we sleep. We noticed that extended periods (4-6hrs) away from home resulted in a reduction of symptoms. Upon further smart meter research, we decided to contact DTE with our concerns. After repeated phone calls inquiring as to the possibility of the meters causing problems, we were always told by the DTE operator that it was not possible and that no health concerns had ever been reported. We were told that DTE was no longer using analog meters and that if we wanted their power, we had to accept the new meters. We were told January 13 that we could have an opt-out meter installed for \$67 plus \$9.50/ mo meter reading fee. JoAnn had some really bad days where she did not want to function and thought she might be dying. Myron started having headaches and insomnia. January 28, DTE was called to request the opt-out meter. Installation was scheduled for February 4, 2014.

No one showed on Feb 4 to replace meter. We called to let DTE know that no one had come. A DTE employee showed up on February 13 while we were away. The opt-out meter was installed and a message left by the installer on our answering machine that they had been there. No change in symptoms was noticed and by March it had become unbearable. We decided that it was time to replace the smart meters back to analog and found a licensed electrician to perform the install. Contact was made to DTE by registered letters indicating our intentions to remove the opt-out meters due to health concerns. They were removed March 3 shortly after the DTE employee read the meter for the month. The DTE smart meters were returned to DTE by UPS.

We experienced immediate relief from insomnia. There was a gradual reduction in most of the other symptoms. We noticed that now we are able to tell if we are in a location that has a smart meter installed. There appears to be a lingering sensitivity which limits our ability to venture away from home.

DTE contacted us via letter on May 23, 2014 to let us know that having the analog meters installed was a felony and they enclosed a shut-off notice. They also contacted us via phone with the option of having the DTE smart meter or opt-out meter reinstalled to prevent the shut off of electricity. We called the MPSC but they took no action and we were told that we had to take the opt-out meter or nothing. We chose nothing and power was shut off June 10. Five individuals showed up, parked their vehicles at the road, walked up and proceeded to remove the line connecting power from the pole to the house. We have been living on a generator ever since, and looking into solar power. It is now July, 2014.